UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

June 20, 2006

J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH ENERGY NORTHWEST REGARDING COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

Dear Mr. Parrish:

This refers to the public meeting conducted at the Region IV office in Arlington, TX, on June 12, 2006, between the NRC and your staff. The participants discussed the NRC substantive crosscutting issue in the area of Problem Identification and Resolution identified during the 2005 End-of-Cycle assessment meeting. Your staff presented the root cause analysis results, the completed programmatic actions, and the planned programmatic actions to address this area.

The attendance list is enclosed with this summary (Enclosure 1). A copy of the presentation slides is also enclosed (Enclosure 2).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Claude E. Johnson, Chief
Project Branch A
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-397
License: NPF-89

Enclosures:
1. Attendance List
2. NRC Presentation Slides

cc w/enclosures:
W. Scott Oxenford (Mail Drop PE04)
Vice President, Technical Services
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Albert E. Mouncer (Mail Drop PE01)
Vice President, Corporate Services/
General Counsel/CFO
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Chairman
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Douglas W. Coleman (Mail Drop PE20)
Manager, Regulatory Programs
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Gregory V. Cullen (Mail Drop PE20)
Supervisor, Licensing
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Chairman
Benton County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 190
Prosser, WA 99350-0190

Dale K. Atkinson (Mail Drop PE08)
Vice President, Nuclear Generation
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Cheryl M. Whitcomb (Mail Drop PE03)
Vice President, Organizational
Performance & Staffing/CKO
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

William A. Horin, Esq.
Winston & Strawn
1700 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3817

Matt Steuerwalt
Executive Policy Division
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

Lynn Albin, Radiation Physicist
Washington State Department of Health
P.O. Box 7827
Olympia, WA 98504-7827

ENCLOSURE 1

PUBLIC MEETING - MEETING ATTENDANCE

LICENSEE/FACILITY	Energy Northwest / Columbia Generating Station
DATE/TIME	June 12, 2006 8:00 a.m. (CST)
LOCATION	Region IV Office, Arlington, TX

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ORGANIZATION
S. Belcher	Energy Northwest
Scott Boynton	Energy Northwest
Cheryl Whitcomb	Energy Northwest
Scott Oxenford	Energy Northwest
Greg Cullen	Energy Northwest
K. Engbarth	Energy Northwest
Bruce Mallett	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Tony Vegel	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Claude Johnson	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Dwight Chamberlain	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Dave Proulx	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Tom Farnholtz	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Ron Cohen	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Enclosure 2

ENERGY NORTHWEST

People · Vision · Solutions

Problem Identification and Resolution Substantive Crosscutting Issue

June 12, 2006

Agenda

▪ Introduction	Cheryl Whitcomb (VP Org Perf and Staffing)
▪ Analysis Results	Cheryl Whitcomb
▪ Programmatic Actions	Cheryl Whitcomb
▪ Operations Actions	Sam Belcher (Ops Mgr)
▪ Engineering Actions	Scott Boynton (Sys Engr Mgr)
▪ Conclusion	Cheryl Whitcomb

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Introduction

- Energy Northwest identified the need for additional training in the area of extent of condition as part of our evaluation of the service water pump issue
- NRC documented this PI&R concern in the March 2, 2006 annual assessment letter
- A dedicated cross-functional root cause team was established to analyze the concern and identify corrective actions

Introduction

- The assessment letter discussed several NRC identified and self-revealing issues:
  - The seismic qualification impacts on 4160 volt and 480 volt switchgear
  - Electrical breaker settings
  - Emergency core cooling system pump motor oil drain plugs

- Related issues considered in our analysis:
  - Service Water Pump degradation
  - Shunt trip lever binding on 4160 volt breakers

Analysis Results

Root cause: **Inadequate Program Oversight**

- *Two aspects of extent of condition evaluation identified:*
  - *Timeliness*
  - *Breadth and depth*
- *Contributing causes also identified*

Where did we look?

- *Operability Determination process*
- *Resolution/Corrective Action*
- *Expanded scope beyond equipment issues*

Also identified similar weakness in extent of cause evaluation

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Analysis Results

What did we find?

- *Personnel, at all levels, did not fully understand when, why, and how to perform an extent of condition evaluation*

What are we doing?

- *Improving process with enhanced procedural guidance*
- *Improving knowledge with targeted training*
- *Improving oversight using industry best practices*

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Process + Knowledge + Oversight =

Sustainability

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Completed Programmatic Actions

PROCESS

- Change management sent to CR initiators to include an extent of condition statement
- Revised the template used to establish appropriate timeliness and ownership of extent of condition evaluation

KNOWLEDGE

- Industry best practice guidance provided to Apparent/Root cause trained personnel and those providing oversight of the process
- Developed and implemented the pilot training session on RIS 2005-20

OVERSIGHT

- Assessed extent of condition evaluation adequacy for all equipment-related PERs generated in 2006
- Revised the evaluation sheets for Corrective Action Review Board (CARB) to include extent of condition adequacy

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Planned Programmatic Actions

PROCESS

- Strengthen procedural guidance regarding extent of condition (June 2006)

KNOWLEDGE

- Provide training on RIS 2005-20 to Operations SROs, Engineering personnel and Management (10 classes scheduled through September 2006)
- Provide training for Apparent and Root cause evaluators and oversight groups (to be completed by October 1, 2006)

OVERSIGHT

- Implement methods to ensure accountability for category "C" CRs that have been flagged for Extent of Condition review (June 2006)
- Three effectiveness reviews to be conducted and results presented to the station CARB (November 2006, April 2007, January 2008)

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Operations Actions

PROCESS

- Improved and proceduralized the template used to determine timeliness and ownership of extent of condition evaluation (COMPLETED) Adobe Acrobat 7.0 Document Adobe Acrobat 7.0 Document
- Implemented improvements to the Operability Determination procedures (COMPLETED)

KNOWLEDGE

- Provide training on RIS 2005-20 to Operations SROs, (10 classes scheduled through September 2006)
- Provide training for Apparent and Root cause evaluators and oversight groups (to be completed by October 1, 2006)

OVERSIGHT

- Strengthened Department and Equipment Reliability CARBs (On-going)
- Improved focus for Condition Report Review Group (On-going)

ENERGY NORTHWEST
People · Vision · Solutions

Engineering Actions

PROCESS

- Engineering Fix It Now Team functionally supports Operations for extent of condition evaluation (COMPLETED)

KNOWLEDGE

- Provide training on RIS 2005-20 to Engineering personnel (10 classes scheduled through September 2006)
- Provide training for Apparent and Root cause evaluators and oversight groups (to be completed by October 1, 2006)

OVERSIGHT

- Strengthened Department and Equipment Reliability CARBs (On-going)
- Equipment-related issues reviewed by the CARBs (On-going)

Conclusion

- *Aggressively responding to the NRC's observation in this area*
- *Comprehensive root cause analysis has been performed*
- *Interim corrective actions have been implemented*
- *Actions to prevent recurrence identified and being implemented*
- *No recent findings involving Extent of Condition*